

## **SQUARE-HOLED SPIRAL WELDED FILTER ELEMENT SUPPORT SLEEVE**

### Abstract of the Disclosure

[0024] A filter support sleeve for use with a filter element to provide structural support for the filter element. The support sleeve encompasses the filter element and includes a metal strip wound in helical turns joined by a continuous spiral weld to form a hollow cylinder. The metal strip has substantially square perforation for passage of fluid flow through the support sleeve oriented such that when the metal strip is helically wound, a line parallel to each side of the square-shaped perforation is skew with the axial axis of the support sleeve. The support sleeve present an open structure while protecting the filter element from forces generated by the fluid flow during normal use or back flow during cleaning. When used with a pleated filter element, the support sleeve will not obstruct the entire length of the pleats.

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